

District III Advisory Board Minutes

www.wichita.gov

**October 1, 2003
7:00 p.m.**

**Colvin Neighborhood City Hall
2820 S. Roosevelt**

The District III Advisory Board meeting was held at 7:00 p.m. at the Colvin Neighborhood City Hall at 2820 S. Roosevelt. The District III City Council member and seven (7) District Advisory Board members were in attendance. Six (6) City staff were present and approximately twenty-five (25) members of the public who signed in.

Members Present

Matt Foley
Phyllis Hall
Charlotte Foster
Jim Gulick
Bill Ward
Judy Dillard
Joann Hartig
Council member Phil Lambke

Members Absent

John Kemp
Laura Simpson

Staff Present

Vicki Mork
Jack Brown
Jim Armour
Randy Sparkman
Deb Legge
Off Lisa Rollins

Guests

see pages

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order

Council Member Lambke called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes for September 3, 2003 were approved. Motion made by Foster (Hartig) passed 7-0.

Action: Received and filed.

Public Agenda

1. Agenda Item

James Skelton, 5903 E. Skinner handed out a written statement which he then read aloud concerning the misuse of public funds by city's Finance Director and Risk Manager. He called for the City Council to pass an ordinance prohibiting city staff from purchasing alcoholic beverages with city funds.

Recommended Action: Receive and file.

2. No off agenda items presented

Staff Presentation

3. Police Report

Officer Lisa Rollins, South Patrol 29 Beat reported quiet conditions in south Wichita but stated she is keeping a close eye on schools on the south side, from midtown schools to Funston and White elementary schools. She also said demolition has begun on Pawnee Plaza to make way for the new super Wal-Mart with completion anticipated March '04.

Recommended Action: Receive and file.

4. Environmental Health

Jack Brown began his presentation saying the existing City of Wichita massage ordinance is unenforceable. The Environmental Health Department asked the masseurs to work with them developing certification and education standards along with permit and licensure criteria. There is a process for "grandfathering" in existing practitioners who may not meet the new standards.

Referring to the document of the proposed ordinance, Chapter 3.56 Massage Therapy that was provided to DAB members prior to the meeting **Jim Gulick** questioned the ability of the WPD to be involved in the process of screening all applicants. **Brown** assured him that police department staff had been involved in drawing up the ordinance and the bulk of the investigations would be handled by office staff.

Gulick asked about Section 3.56.030 Section E wondering why the City of Wichita is listed as an additional insured. In fact this designation was listed several times in the proposed ordinance. **Brown** replied the Law Department recommended those inclusions but he will find out and let the DAB board know the answer.

Dillard asked if physical therapy was also covered by the proposed ordinance and **Brown** explained it was. **Foster** said she was concerned that massage therapists could perform their work on a mobile basis. **Foley** commented that he was a professional masseuse since the 1980's. He feels the ordinance is restrictive and that the group working with Environmental

Health is promoting a very strict, inclusive law based on promoting the school's interest. He urges denial of the ordinance.

Brown countered explaining that education was the key provision of the proposal and the ordinance contained a process for "grand fathering" existing masseuses. He said discussion was welcome and encouraged the DAB board to provide input in determining the right amount of training. **Foley** stated there is no standard for certification in Kansas at the present time and reiterated his position that the schools are interested in the law change because of their own self-promotion and he could not support it.

Recommended Action: Gulick (Foster) moved that board action on the proposed ordinance be postponed until the questions posed could be answered. Motion passed 7-0.

5. Public Works

Jim Armour presented information on the improvement of Hydraulic between 47th Street South and 57th Street South. This is Phase 4 of a \$10 million project, part of the 2002-2011 Capital Improvement Program adopted by the City Council, to improve the Hydraulic corridor. . The proposal is to widen Hydraulic to a four-lane roadway with curb and gutter. A storm water sewer system will be constructed as part of the project and the right of way will be landscaped. Two-way traffic will be possible through the construction with the exception of a weekend closure at the bridge south of 55th Street.

The project is estimated to cost \$3.8 million with \$1.1 million paid by the City and \$2.7 million paid through Federal grants administered by the Kansas Department of Transportation. The City funding source is General Obligation Bonds. The project is needed to improve traffic safety and increase traffic carrying capacity.

Jeff Bradley and **Tim Azure**, construction engineers for the project with the Baughman Company, handed out maps showing the proposed improvements to DAB members and audience members. **Bradley** explained the bridge at the south end of the improvements will be replaced in 2006-7. Trees are to be removed from the west side of Hydraulic between 55th and 57th Street. The road will be asphalt with curb and gutter. They anticipate the drainage issues previously experienced in the area will be improved. A warning was given that Federal funding for the project is a good thing but the Federal participation will slow the project down. The start date of construction is March 2004.

Armour explained that Public Works had had great success with the 5-lane roadway, the same concept proposed for this improvement project. Prior projects showed a 60% reduction in accidents at intersections and a 30-40% reduction in mid-block accidents.

Audience member, **Jody Bennett**, 1709 E. 48th St. South asked how much the road would be lowered and if the drainage problems would be solved. **Armour** explained the roadway would be lowered by a maximum of 1.5 feet in some places. The drainage will be structured like the previous phase of the project. He continued saying that no two consecutive side streets would be closed at the same time and when possible driveways would be completed a half at a time. Another question posed by an audience member asked if the existing Quik

Trip driveway opening onto Hydraulic very near the intersection at 47th Street would be left in place. **Armour** replied that existing businesses are not being held to the new law regulating placement on driveways relative to intersections.

Bennett of 1709 E 48th St. South asked when the project would be done. **Armour** replied that the best-case scenario would begin with bids taken in February 2004, construction beginning in March with completion in December 2004. He explained that this is the optimistic view and much depends upon how the Federal review of the project goes. It is anticipated it will be about a 9-month construction project with no special assessments.

Recommended Action: Dillard (Foley) moved the project be approved. Motion passed unanimously 7-0.

6. Office of Central Inspection (OCI)

Randy Sparkman, Zoning Enforcement and Neighborhood Inspection. He explained that his duties and responsibilities include enforcement of signage rules and regulations and he has collected lots of garage sale and realtor signs from public right of way. He also licenses clubs, taverns, dance clubs working through consolidated fire inspections, building inspections with one other person.

He is also the coordinator of graffiti removal and accomplishes that with other city staff. He said they had great success fighting graffiti in a timely way. **Gulick** asked about the graffiti response time. **Sparkman** explained it was that day or the next depending upon the time of day the complaint is received and also whether there is a signed release on file from the property owner.

Foley asked if there was an official position on improperly place political signs.

Sparkman replied that all signs are subject to enforcement and as a result are confiscated. They can be retrieved if a fee is paid. Every year an information sheet covering sign placement is provided to all political candidates.

Hartig commented that she had been involved in moving a sign in Delano and it was a complicated process and is going to take 30 days. **Sparkman** explained that the process in this case involved Historic Preservation, which contributed to the complexity of the process and lengthened the time period. The committee has to be convened to review and approve the process.

Deb Legge, Neighborhood Inspection Supervisor explained her staff works with substandard housing, car parking in the yard, recreation vehicle parking, emergency board up for abandoned, dangerous and unsafe structures, condemnations and coordinate neighborhood cleanups, of which about 80 are done each year from mid-March through mid-November. She has a staff of 12 but she's one short right now.

Foley said Deb Legge was an unsung hero and her cooperation has been instrumental in making big changes in Hilltop.

Board Agenda

7. Updates, Issues and Reports

Hall reports the grand re-opening of the Planeview Library is going to be held on October 9, 2003. **Gulick** reported that there was a walking park at Mt. Vernon and Bluff as a result of cooperation between Meadowlark Association of Neighbors and Grandview Heights. He also showed the group a copy of the book, *Community Reconnection* that was the result of a Wichita Assembly workshop he participated in that focused on returning offenders to the community. He said he wasn't happy with the report.

Foley reported great progress in cleaning up Hilltop.

Recommended Action: Hall (Dillard) moved to adjourn the meeting. Passed unanimously

8. Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting for District Advisory Board III will be November 5, 2003 at Colvin Neighborhood City Hall at 7:00 p.m.

No Action Required

Adjournment Motion to adjourn made by Simpson (Gulick)

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki Mork, Neighborhood Assistant
District III

Visitors

Tom & Virginia Moody	5316 S. Hydraulic
Bill & Eddyth Feeder	1801 E. 53 rd St South
John & Barbara Falconburg	1700 E. Fairhaven
Judy Van Dolah	5654 S. Hydraulic
Maurice & Mary Herridge	5239 S. Hydraulic
Curtis & Janet Lynes	5400 S. Hydraulic
Joe & Anita Flemming	5145 S. Ash
Lee Roy J. Ford	5225 S. Hydraulic
David & Peggy Taylor	4849 S. Hydraulic
Ed Spotts	4931 S. Hydraulic
JB Bennett	1709 E. 8 th St. South
Jesse R. Sheffield	2526 S. Mosley
Jim & Jean Whalen	5130 S. Madison
James Skelton	5903 E. Skinner
Betty Strickland	1302 Galena
Melody Stucky	2756 Mason Terrace
Michael Sheffield	1825 S. Greenwood